GRESHAM-BARLOW SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 JT.
Minutes of Regular Board Business Meeting

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

The Gresham-Barlow School District Board of Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, July 1, 2026 in the council chambers of the Public Safety and Schools Building, 1331 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, OR 97030. A YouTube link was provided for virtual meeting attendance.

Board Members present:
Shawn Farrens, Kris Howatt, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann, Erasto Sedda.

Cabinet Members present:

Dr. Tracy Klinger, Superintendent
Dr. Sara Deboy, Assistant Superintendent
Pete Bejarano, Director of Finance

Opening Items

1. Call Regular Business Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance (6:00 p.m.)
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the board chair, Blake Petersen. They did not say the Pledge of Allegiance during the meeting.

2. Roll Call (6:00 p.m.)
Directors Coleman-Cox and Puderbaugh were absent from the meeting. A quorum of the board was in attendance.

3. Approve Meeting Agenda (6:00 p.m.)

MOTION 1: Move to approve the meeting agenda as presented. This motion, made by Holly Riegelmann and seconded by Kris Howatt, Carried.
Aye: Shawn Farrens, Kris Howatt, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann, Erasto Sedda
Aye: 5, No: 0, Absent: 2

4. Land Acknowledgement (6:01 p.m.)
Director Howatt read the Land Acknowledgement at the start of the meeting. She shared that she came across another version that was a more positive setting. She would like the board to look at updating their land acknowledgement. Chair Petersen noted that would be a good future topic to submit for a work session.

5. Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair (6:02 p.m.)
Chair Petersen reviewed the policies requiring the election of a Board Chair and vice-Chair at the first meeting of the year. He noted that he has served as chair over the past year and Director Riegelmann has served as vice-chair. He opened nominations for the position of board chair and nominated Holly Riegelmann to serve as chair for 2026-27. Director Howatt nominated herself to serve as chair.

MOTION 2: Move to appoint Kris Howatt as Chair. This motion, made by Kris Howatt and seconded by Erasto Sedda, Failed.
Aye: Kris Howatt, Erasto Sedda
No: Shawn Farrens, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann
Aye: 2, No: 3, Absent: 2

Following the motion, the board held discussion around who should serve as board chair. Chair Petersen noted he is a big proponent of cycling through leadership to give others the opportunity. Director Howatt shared that after her unsuccessful re-election to the OSBA Board she wants to maximize her time, and would like the opportunity to be chair one more time before her term is up.

> **MOTION 3:** Move to elect Holly Riegelmann to serve as board Chair for 26-27. This motion, made by Blake Petersen and seconded by Shawn Farrens, Carried.
> Yes: Shawn Farrens, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann
> No: Kris Howatt, Erasto Sedda
> Aye: 3, No: 2, Absent: 2

Following the motion, there was additional conversation by the board. Director Farrens noted that Director Riegelmann has served as vice-chair for two years and he would like to give her the chance to serve and complete the cycle from vice-chair to chair.

After the election of the board chair, Chair Petersen opened nominations for the vice-chair position. Director Howatt nominated Erasto Sedda and Chair Petersen nominated Shawn Farrens.

> **MOTION 4:** Move to appoint Erasto Sedda as Vice-Chair for 26-27. This motion, made by Kris Howatt and seconded by Erasto Sedda, Failed.
> Aye: Kris Howatt, Erasto Sedda
> No: Shawn Farrens, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann
> Aye: 2, No: 3, Absent: 2

Following the motion there was additional discussion by the board. Director Howatt shared that while Director Sedda is new on the board, he has been involved at length with the equity committee and budget committee. This is a good opportunity to learn more about board work. Chair Petersen shared his admiration and respect noting he has no doubt he will lead the board in the future. He added that longevity also factors into this process.

> **MOTION 5:** Move to elect Shawn Farrens to serve as board Vice-Chair for 26-27. This motion, made by Blake Petersen and seconded by Holly Riegelmann, Carried.
> Yes: Shawn Farrens, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann
> No: Kris Howatt, Erasto Sedda
> Aye: 3, No: 2, Absent: 2

Director Petersen thanked the board for the opportunity to serve as chair. He thinks it is wise they move on to a new chair noting that during his time as chair they had COVID-19, COVID-19 recovery, and budget cuts. His goals have been to bring peace to the board and hear every voice as much as possible. The remainder of the meeting was turned over to Chair Riegelmann.

NOTE: During the meeting, it was stated that Motions 3 and 5 to elect the chair and vice-chair carried with a 3-2 vote. After the meeting it was realized these motions should have failed due to a lack of board majority (4 affirmative votes). To remedy this error, the board held a special work session July 14, 2026 to re-vote on the chair and vice-chair positions.

Citizens' Requests of Board

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6. Guidelines for Public Comment (6:12 p.m.)
The board did not receive any public comments prior to the start of the meeting.

Consent Agenda

7. **Minutes from Budget Hearing - June 4, 2026**
8. **Minutes from Regular Board Business Meeting - June 4, 2026**
9. **Minutes from Special Work Session - June 11, 2026**
10. **Minutes from Regular Work Session - June 18, 2026**
11. **Monthly Financial Report**
12. **Personnel Report: Employee Contracts**
13. **Policy Update**
14. **Approval of Consent Agenda** (6:12 p.m.)

Chair Riegelmann reviewed information included in the consent agenda.

> **MOTION 6:** Move to approve the consent agenda as presented. This motion, made by Kris Howatt and seconded by Blake Petersen, Carried.
> Aye: Shawn Farrens, Kris Howatt, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann, Erasto Sedda
> Aye: 5, No: 0, Absent: 2

Superintendent and District Leadership Report

15. Update from the Superintendent and District Leadership (6:13 p.m.)

Superintendent Klinger provided an update on meetings and activities she has participated in over the past month. She shared that it is hard to believe they have made it to July which officially marks the start to a new school year. Their work behind the scenes is moving forward as they plan, recalibrate, and prepare for the year ahead. As they wrapped up the 2026-27 school year, their principals and school staff shifted their focus to preparation mode. They have been building master schedules for next school year under the constraints of reduced FTE, and school teams have wrapped up their school improvement planning. She is proud of their diligence despite resource constraints, noting that they remain focused on data-driven goals the prioritize student achievement and well-being.

After careful consideration, they have decided to pause their traditional Convocation event for the start of the school year. While they received overwhelming positive feedback last year, and they know it was an event that was enjoyed by many, this pause was a deliberate strategic decision that allows them to reevaluate cost and explore what the next iteration might look like. It also protects staff capacity due to recent budget and staff reductions. They are looking at an alternative, school-based structure to welcome staff back to the 26-27 school year.

Superintendent Klinger shared that they are also preparing for the upcoming long legislative session. Meaningful, lasting change requires early and consistent conversations with their law makers. Her advocacy this year will be focused on both short-term solutions to address fiscal and operational pressures, as well as on longer term systemic changes to fix foundational structure of education and support. Systemic change takes time at the state level, and she is committed to doing her part to advocate for the resources students deserve. Despite challenges and a tight budget landscape, she is entering this new year with hope and optimism. They work with an outstanding staff that is profoundly committed to students and families. The students they serve continue to inspire, and she thanked the board for their partnership.

Board Reports and Requests

16. Updates from Board Members (6:16 p.m.)

Board members summarized various meetings and other activities they participated in during the past month. Topics included the following:

- Attending high school graduations, 8th grade promotions, and 5th grade graduations at several schools.

- Seeing the impact schools have on students and their hard work rewarded; thanking students, staff, and families for making the events possible.
- Recognizing Springwater Trail for having one of their largest graduating classes this year.
- Acknowledging that the City of Gresham provided EMOPI dollars for their students, and thanking the city decision makers who made that possible.
- Celebrating the district's partnership with the city that has grown over the years noting that Dr. Klinger meets with city leadership and superintendents in the area.
- Visiting the Gresham-Barlow Education Foundation's fireworks stand by White's Meats; highly recommending buying there to help out the foundation, they have a lot of great choices.

Recess/Reconvene

17. Board Recess (6:20 p.m.)
The board did not take a recess during the meeting.

Committee Meeting Minutes and/or Reports

18. Policy Review Committee Minutes, June 12, 2026 (6:20 p.m.)
The minutes of the Policy Review Committee Meeting on June 12, 2026 were provided for the board to review. Dr. Deboy shared that at their last policy committee meeting, Mr. Bejarano joined them to provide input on policies up for review. The committee spoke at length about policies DBEA, DID, FF, and JOA. The first three were on the consent agenda for approval, and the board will review JOA later in the agenda to provide more time for discussion. The committee agreed to bring policy DN back for further review in the fall.

Director Howatt shared that they had a request from a board member to talk about a music policy, and they also discussed this at length during their committee meeting. She added that there are very good notes in the minutes about this discussion. There are some areas of it that would need further review. They had a robust conversation but didn't come to a decision about having a policy around elementary music.

Associations Reports

19. Gresham-Barlow Education Association (GBEA) (2 minutes) (6:23 p.m.)
There was not a representative from the Gresham-Barlow Education Association in attendance to provide a report.

20. Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA) (2 minutes) (6:23 p.m.)
Amanda Morgan, an educational assistant at North Gresham Elementary School, was in attendance to report on behalf of the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA) Chapter 8 employees. She noted that they were going to introduce their new board members elected for the 2026-27 school year, but only two were able to be at the meeting. She shared that she is the new Vice-President and will be attending the school board meeting. They kicked off summer by going to the OSEA Conference, June 25-27, at the Jantzen Beach Holiday Inn. They were able to get a lot of work done during the conference.

Action Items

21. Annual Procedural Business / Designations Resolutions (6:24 p.m.)
Mr. Bejarano reviewed information included in the board agenda packet, and noted that the resolutions can be approved in one motion. These are things that need to be in place for the district to do business, such as the bank of record, lawyer of record, insurance company of record, etc.

MOTION 7: Move to approve by one motion Resolutions 2027-04 through 2027-08 for fiscal year 2026-27. This motion, made by Kris Howatt and seconded by Blake Petersen, Carried.
Aye: Shawn Farrens, Kris Howatt, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann, Erasto Sedda
Aye: 5, No: 0, Absent: 2

22. Date, Time, and Place of 2026-27 Board Meetings (6:26 p.m.)
Chair Riegelmann reviewed information included in the board agenda packet outlining the board policy that requires a board meeting schedule be adopted in July of each year. They had some discussion about their meeting schedule at their work session. Wednesdays or Thursdays has been a discussion in the past. They have also changed the start time for their business meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Superintendent Klinger noted the Budget Committee meetings are still scheduled for 7:00 p.m. and asked the board if they would like to move those to 6:00 p.m. Board members noted they would want new budget committee members to have input on the time. They will leave it as is until they can ask the committee members.

MOTION 8: Move to adopt the 2026-27 Regular Board Meeting Schedule as presented. This motion, made by Blake Petersen and seconded by Erasto Sedda, Carried.
Aye: Shawn Farrens, Kris Howatt, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann, Erasto Sedda
Aye: 5, No: 0, Absent: 2

23. Policy Review: Policy JOA Directory Information (6:28 p.m.)
Dr. Deboy shared that they have had extensive conversation about this policy due to a change in OAR that proposed more strict provisions. They had to redact some pieces of their directory information that make students more personally identifiable. They want to make sure they are in line with the law, and also have a celebration of student efforts and recognitions. They checked with OSBA about adding grade level and most recent school attended. Most recent school attended was originally struck out, but now it has been deemed acceptable. Grade level would still not be permissible. They could continue to disclose it, but they would be at risk for a FERPA violation. Dr. Deboy recommended removing grade level and putting it as an addition to the opt out form. That comes out annually when parents complete verification or when new families register. It currently opts out for photos, but now would include grade level. She shared that it is common for them to follow up to make sure people are clear on what they meant when selecting to opt out. They will do that again with both items. They don’t have a lot of people that select the opt out option.

They discussed adjusting the recommended motion so that they would un-strike the wording in the policy for most recent school attended. Board members asked about language similar to the second page that talks about exclusions to talk about it as an opt out scenario. Dr. Deboy clarified that they could include that under exclusions or they could add it under Policy JOB. She would advise they look for where that typically lands.

MOTION 9: Move to approve Policy JOA - Directory Information with #12 most recent school attended included. This motion, made by Blake Petersen and seconded by Kris Howatt, Carried.
Aye: Shawn Farrens, Kris Howatt, Blake Petersen, Holly Riegelmann, Erasto Sedda
Aye: 5, No: 0, Absent: 2

Information Items

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24. Monthly Financial Report (6:35 p.m.)
Mr. Bejarano reviewed information included in the board agenda packet. The district’s financial position has remained fairly stable. The ending balance is now projected at 6.7% which is half a percent lower. This is due to the three months of payroll that go through in one month.

Closing Items

25. Announcements (6:36 p.m.)
Chair Riegelmann reviewed the announcements in the board agenda packet. A streaming link for virtual meeting attendance will be provided for upcoming meetings. Director Howatt clarified that while it says location TBD, they are required to hold their meeting in the district. In the future, board member suggested listing it as TBD (in district).

<u>August 27, 2026</u>: Board Strategic Planning Session - 8 a.m.
Location TBD
Gresham, OR

<u>August 27, 2026</u>: Board Summer Social (No Meeting) - 5:30 p.m.
Location TBD
Gresham, OR

<u>September 2, 2026</u>: Regular Board Business Meeting - 6 p.m.
Council Chambers
Public Safety and Schools Building

26. Adjournment (6:38 p.m.)
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Submitted by: ____
Sarah Avery
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and
Board of Directors

Note: These minutes were approved by the board on ____________________:sa